

Atty Dkt No: 10151.0007  
**10/560968**  
**IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 16 DEC 2005**

**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Michael Josephus Theresia VAN EJK

Serial No. *Unassigned*

Filed: *on even date herewith*

For: Means and Method for the Detection of Target  
Nucleotide Sequences Using Ligation Assays  
with Improved Oligonucleotide Probe Pairs

Art Unit: (*Unassigned*)

Examiner: (*Unassigned*)

Atty Dkt No: 10151.0007

Customer No. **30827**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This amendment is filed on December 16, 2005, concurrent with the filing of the above-captioned U.S. National Phase application.

Prior to calculation of the fees and examination on the merits, please amend the specification and claims attached to the specification as provided below.

Amendment to the specification (title) appears on page 2.

Amendments to the claims, in the form of new claims, are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on page 3 of this paper and continues through page 7.

**REMARKS** begin at page 8.